The True CONFESSION

OF

Mr. George Norton,

Concerning the

MURTHER

OF

Mr. HARRIS the Dancing-Master,

On the 11th of *June* last.

Taken out of his own PAPERS, delivered by him to Mrs. *Mary Edwards*, before he took the Fatal Draught of Poyson, on the 8th of *August*, of which he died the next following day, which was appointed for his Execution at *Tyburn*.

MR. *George Norton* politickly declares, That what *Mary Ace*, who was walking along with *Mr. Harris*, when he had the Misfortune to kill him, deposed concerning his clapping the said *Thomas Harris* upon the Shoulder, and his asking him who he was, and his Swearing that he would lie with her, without any Provocation, was utterly false; as was likewise, what he had declared, that he had drawn his Sword first; and that the said Mr. *Harris* had been wounded by him, as he believed, at the first Pass. The Quarrel betwixt Mr. *Harris* and him happening in the following manner: As he was walking on the 11th of *June* last, about Eleven a Clock at Night, at the *Rose* in *Hyde-Mews*, near the *Fountain Tavern*, being contrary to his Custom, somewhat in Drink, he happened to meet and take the Wall of the before-said *Thomas Harris*, who was leading this *Mary Ace*; at which, he being much exasperated, called him, without any further Provocation, a Prigg, and a Puppy, for offering to take the Wall of a Woman, adding, that she wondred Mr. *Harris* would not Kick him into the Kennell, and so push'd him from the Wall. They then, and not before, asked her who he was, and without any further Intention of taking her from Mr. *Harris*, told her, that he would know why he should give him such abusive Language, before they parted, and that he would have her before her Return; upon which, Mr. *Harris* coming up close to him, told him, he would make him know who he was, and immediately drew his Sword, and struck him so unexpectedly, that he was forced to defend himself as well as he could with his Cane, which he did for some time, till Mr. *Harris*, having cut his Cane in many places, and at last struck it out of his hands, he was forced to have recourse to his Sword; when several Passes were made betwixt them, and the before-mentioned *Mary Ace*, having taken the opportunity to take away his Sword, he was forced to close in with the said *Thomas Harris*, and having broke his Sword, with one of the Pieces, he gave, in the greatest heat of Blood, and for the Security of his own Person, the Wound, which proved fatal to his Enemy, and put him under such an immediate Affliction, that he was no sooner brought into the Watch-house, (which was not above 20 yards from the Place where the Quarrel hapned) but hearing that his Wound was judged Mortal, he cryed out to the Chirurgeon, to use his utmost Endeavours to save his Life, and that he should have a Pool secured him for a Reward, expressing his Sorrow for having kill'd a Man, for he did not know what, as was testified by several Watch-men, and the Neighbouring Vintner and his Apprentice, who were there present, and afterwards Evidences for the King; as *Nicholas Mountain*, another Watch-man, (who was likewise Sworn for the King) has sufficiently

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LONDON: Printed by D. Edwards in Fetter-Lane. 1699.